

# Undaria pinnatifida

## COMMON NAMES

Asian kelp, Wakame

## BIOSTATUS

Exotic

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## CATEGORY

Non-vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Marine Macroalgae

## DISTRIBUTION

An introduced species from the western Pacific. It is now found as an adventive species growing in the Mediterranean and the north-east Atlantic and New Zealand, Tasmania, and Argentina.

## GENUS

Undaria

## FAMILY

Alariaceae

## AUTHORITY

Undaria pinnatifida (Harv.) Suringar

## ETYMOLOGY

**pinnatifida**: Pinnately divided, finely cut

## ENVIRONMENTAL WEED (2024)

**This plant is named in a list of 386 environmental weeds in New Zealand 2024 prepared by DOC.** 759 candidate species were considered for inclusion on this new comprehensive list of environmental weeds in New Zealand. The species considered were drawn from published lists of weed species, lists of plants that must be reported or managed by law if observed, existing national and regional programmes and agreements for pest management, and species already managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC). Candidate species were then assessed to see if they were fully naturalised and whether they have more than minor impacts in natural ecosystems. Read the full report [here](#).

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/undaria-pinnatifida/>

## PDF DATE

25 May 2026

